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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/898,921 07/23/97 YAMAGISHI

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EXAMINER

CHRISTENSEN, A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2712

DATE MAILED:

05/23/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/898,921

Applicant(s)

Yamagishi

Examiner

Andy Christensen

Group Art Unit

2712



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 23, 1997

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 27-29 and 33-36 is/are pending in the applicat

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 27-29 and 33-36 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☒ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) 08/670,149

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claims 33-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 33 and 35 recite the limitation "said indicating means" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in these claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 27-29 and 33-35 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Bullock et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,675,358).

Regarding Claim 27, Bullock et al. disclose (Figures 1 and 2) an image processing system comprising an information processing apparatus (100) including a operating means (132) for entering information, a processing means (130) for processing information entered at the

operating means, a display means (114) for performing a display corresponding to data processed by the processing means, and an interface for connecting an external apparatus (See Figure 2 and Column 3, Lines 3-7); and an image pickup apparatus (118) detachable from the interface (See Column 3, Lines 3-7 and Column 2, Lines 66-67 and note that the image pickup apparatus is clearly detachable since the computer is an off-the-shelf item to which the image pickup apparatus as a peripheral device clearly must be connected using a detachable connection) including an image pickup means (138); wherein the information processing apparatus further includes a detecting means for detecting that the image pickup apparatus is connected (Column 5, Lines 29-43), and a control means for controlling the displaying state of the display means according to the output detected by the detecting means (Column 5, Lines 29-43).

Regarding Claim 28, Bullock et al. disclose that when the detecting means detects that the image pickup apparatus is connected, the control means displays image information sent from the image pickup apparatus on the display means (Column 5, Lines 29-43).

Regarding Claim 29, Bullock et al. disclose that the display means displays an image sent from the image pickup apparatus in a window in a display screen thereon (Column 5, Lines 29-43).

Regarding Claims 33-35, Bullock et al. disclose an indicating means that indicates the

result detected by the detecting means as marks that relate to a camera and indicate an image pickup condition thereof (Column 5, Lines 29-43).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bullock et al. in view of Fuse (JP1-176168).

Bullock et al. disclose an electronic camera for operation with a computer having an interface with the camera, the camera comprising an optical system (See the lens pictured in Figure 1), an image sensor (138), an A/D converter (inherent in a digital camera - Column 3, Lines 4-5), a signal processor (memory 139 clearly having a processing function to store the digital signal according to a file format and memory locations compatible with the memory), and an adapter for converting the processed digital signal through the interface (Column 3, Lines 51-56; camera controller card 132 and tether 117), whereby a physical connection is made between the camera and the computer and a link is provided for transferring the processed digital signal from the camera to the computer (Column 3, Lines 5-7 and 53-56), wherein the image converting

means and the signal converting means are contained within an enclosure (See Figure 1).

In Bullock et al. the camera and computer are connected via a tether (Column 3, Line 5) and therefore the adapter that provides connection between the camera and the computer does not include a removable extender board dimensioned to fit into a card slot provided in the computer, for physically connecting the adapter to the card slot. However such a connection between a camera and an external display device is well known in the art as disclosed in Fuse wherein a camera that is formed into a card is removably connected to the display via an adapter 7 which has an extender board configured to fit into a card slot provided in the display device (See Constitution and Figures 1 and 3). It is clear that such an arrangement in Bullock et al. would increase the operability and reliability of the device since a quick sliding connection would be made with contacts internal to the computer housing thus precluding the use of an external pin-type connection. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to form the adapter in Bullock et al. as a card shaped extender board and to form the computer to have a card slot for interfacing therewith via a removable connection in order to increase the operability and reliability of the device.

4. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-6306 (for informal or draft communications; please label "PROPOSED" or


"DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 2, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).


5. Any inquiry regarding this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andy Christensen whose telephone number is (703) 308-9644.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber, can be reached on (703) 305-4929.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


Wendy Garber
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2700

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May 15, 2000